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UNITED NATIONS

TUESDAY, 9 DECEMBER 1997 No. 1997/237

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS AND AGENDA

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Tuesday, 9 December 1997

SECURITY COUNCIL

10.30 a.m.	consultations of the whole (closed)	Consultation Room

Croatia (S/1997/953)

Rwanda (S/1997/812 and S/1997/868 and Corr.1)

Briefing by Mr. Laïty Kama, President of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda

Other matters

SECURITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED BY RESOLUTION 661 (1990) CONCERNING THE SITUATION BETWEEN IRAQ AND KUWAIT

3.30 p.m.	164th meeting* (closed)	Conference Room 7

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* The Chairman will give an oral briefing to interested members of the United Nations in Conference Room 7 immediately after the meeting. Following the oral briefing to the members, the Chairman will give a briefing to the Press Room.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-second session

10 a.m. 67th PLENARY MEETING General Assembly Hall

1. Compliance with arms limitation and disarmament obligations: report of the First Committee (A/52/591) [62].

2. Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification: report of the First Committee (A/52/592) [63].

3. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty: report of the First Committee (A/52/593) [64].

4. Reduction of military budgets: report of the First Committee (A/52/594) [65].

5. The role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament: report of the First Committee (A/52/595) [66].

6. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East: report of the First Committee (A/52/596) [67].

7. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia: report of the First Committee (A/52/597) [68].

8. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons: report of the First Committee (A/52/598) [69].

9. Prevention of an arms race in outer space: report of the First Committee (A/52/599) [70].

10. General and complete disarmament: report of the First Committee (A/52/600) [71].

11. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly: report of the First Committee (A/52/601) [72].

12. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session: report of the First Committee (A/52/602) [73].

13. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East: report of the First Committee (A/52/603) [74].

14. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects: report of the First Committee (A/52/604) [75].

15. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region: report of the First Committee (A/52/605) [76].

16. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace: report of the First Committee (A/52/606) [77].

17. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco): report of the First Committee (A/52/607) [78].

18. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty: report of the First Committee (A/52/608) [79].

19. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction: report of the First Committee (A/52/609) [80].

20. Maintenance of international security: report of the First Committee (A/52/610) [81].

21. Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security: report of the First Committee (A/52/611) [82].

22. Rationalization of the work and reform of the agenda of the First Committee: report of the First Committee (A/52/612) [83].

3 p.m. 68th PLENARY MEETING General Assembly Hall

1. Question of Palestine [36] :

   (a) Report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (A/52/35);

   (b) Report of the Secretary-General (A/52/581);

   (c) Letter from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (A/52/571);

   (d) Letter from Namibia (A/52/704);

   (e) Draft resolutions (A/52/L.49, L.50. L.51, L.52 and Corr.1, L.53/Rev.1);

   (f) Amendment (A/52/L.59).

2. The situation in the Middle East [37]:

   (a) Reports of the Secretary-General (A/52/467, A/52/581);

   (b) Draft resolutions (A/52/L.54, L.55, L.62);

   (c) Amendments (A/52/L.63).

Committees

SECOND COMMITTEE

10 a.m.-1 p.m. | 50th meeting | Conference Room 2

1. Macroeconomic policy questions [95]

   (a) Financing of development, including net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.4 and L.48

   (d) External debt crisis and development

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.8 and L.58

2. Sectoral policy questions [96]

   (a) Industrial development cooperation

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.16 and L.40

   (b) Business and development

   Introduction of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.13/Rev.1

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.13 and L.13/Rev.1

   (c) Food and sustainable agricultural development

3. Sustainable development and international economic coopera- tion [97]

   (a) Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

   Action on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.11/Rev.1

   (g) Women in development

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.17/Rev.1

   (h) Human resources development

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.31 and L.49

4. Environment and sustainable development [98]

   (a) Implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

   (b) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.22 and L.57 (Programme budget implications in A/C.2/52/L.54)

   (c) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.21 and L.55

   (e) Convention on Biological Diversity

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.25 and L.56

   (g) Special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21

   Draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.29

5. Draft biennial programme of work for the Second Committee for 1998-1999 (A/C.2/52/L.45)

6. Suspension of the work of the Committee

FIFTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m. | 38th meeting | Conference Room 3

1. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 [116] (A/52/7/Add.1-2, A/52/16/Add.1, A/51/950 and Corr.1 (Arabic only) and Add.1-6, A/52/303 and Add.1*, A/C.5/52/20, A/C.5/52/27, A/C.5/52/14, A/C.5/52/17, A/C.5/ 52/21 and Add.1, A/C.5/52/23 and Corr.1 and A/52/707)

   Introduction and continuation of general discussion

2. Human resources management [153] (A/52/580)

   Introduction and general discussion

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* To be published.

Morning*- 1 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5
3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda item 116 (Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 (A/52/6/Rev.1 (Vol. I and II and Add.1), A/52/16 and Add.1, A/52/7 and Chapter II (Parts I-XII and Add.2), A/C.5/51/53, A/C.5/51/57, A/C.5/52/15 and A/C.5/52/20))

6.30 p.m.- 9.30 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda item 121 (United Nations common system (A/52/30, A/52/439, A/C.5/52/18, A/C.5/52/22 and A/C.5/52/28))

9.30 p.m.- 12.30 a.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda items 119 (Pattern of conferences (A/52/32 and Corr.1 (Chinese only) and Add.1, A/51/946 and Corr.1 (Russian), A/52/215 and Add.1, A/52/216 and Add.1, A/52/291, A/52/340 and Add.1 and A/C.5/52/CRP.1))

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* Following the adjournment of the 38th meeting of the Fifth Committee.

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PREPARATORY COMMITTEE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

WORKING GROUP ON PROCEDURAL MATTERS

10 a.m.- 1 p.m.	open meeting	Conference Room 1

WORKING GROUP ON DEFINITIONS AND ELEMENTS OF CRIMES

3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	open meeting	Conference Room 1

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

10.30 a.m.- 1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10
3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10

Subjects

1. Interim study of the question of honoraria payable to members of organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations
2. Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) - procedure

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

COMMISSION ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

There will be briefing by the Chairman of the Commission for Social Development on the preparations for the next session of the Commission *today*, 9 December 1997, at 10 a.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber.

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

The announcements in this section are reproduced as received. The designations employed do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

Tuesday, 9 December 1997

GROUP OF 77 OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE
(on all outstanding matters)

9 a.m.-10 a.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 7
1.45 p.m.-2.45 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 9

GROUP OF 77 OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE
(on the proposed programme budget)

1.30 p.m.-2.45 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 5

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United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

ORIENTATION COURSE ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL FOR MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

10 a.m.-1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 9
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 9

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Training seminar

The Microeconomic and Social Analysis Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs will organize a Training Seminar on the subject "Globalization and Taxation". The Seminar will be conducted by Prof. Altshuler (Columbia University/Rutgers University) *today*, 9 December 1997, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Conference Room B. terested staff members are invited to attend.

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Press Conference

The United Nations Development Programme will release a new discussion paper entitled, "Valuing Our Future: Cost-Benefit Analysis and Sustainability", at a press conference *today*, 9 December 1997, at 1 p.m. in the Hank Shannon Conference Room (DC1 - 21st floor). The author, Geoffrey Heal, Professor of Economics and Finance at Columbia University, Mr. Kenneth Ruffing, Officer-in-charge, Economics and Finance Branch, DESA, and Mr. David Roodman, Senior Researcher at Worldwatch Institute will present comments. All members of delegations, Secretariat staff, representatives of non-governmental organizations and the press are invited to attend.

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Informal meeting

There will be an informal meeting on draft resolution A/52/L.45 (item 20) on the security humanitarian personnel *today*, 9 December 1997, from 1.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m.in Conference Room 8. All interested delegations are invited to attend.

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Informal consultations

Informal open-ended consultations on the issue of involvement of non-governmental organizations in the work of the United Nations will take place *today*, 9 December 1977, at 3 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

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Presentation

Mr. John Vereker, Permanent Under Secretary at the British Government Department for International Development (DFID), will give a presentation on the British Government's White Paper "Eliminating World Poverty: A Challenge for the 21st Century" *today*, 9 December 1997, at from 3.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Conference Room 8. The meeting will be presided by H.E. Mr. Stephen Gomerall, Deputy Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations. All members of delegations, Secretariat staff, representatives of non-governmental organiza- tions and the press are invited to attend.

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Briefing

An open informal briefing on the United Nations Stand-by-Forces High Readiness Brigade (SHIRBRIG) for Permanent Representatives, peacekeeping experts and military advisers will be held *today*, 9 December 1997, at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 4. The meeting will be chaired by the Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations, H.E. Mr. Jorgen Bøjer. The briefing will be followed by a question-and-answer period.

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Informal meeting

Closed consultations among troop contributors on the United Nations Irak-Kuwait Observer Mission (UNIKOM) will be held *today*, 9 December 1997, at 4 p.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber.

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Announcement

As from Thursday, 4 December 1997, and for the rest of the month, the President of the Security Council will conduct informal briefings on the current work of the Council for Member States of the United Nations which are non-members of the Council daily, except on days on which no informal consultations are scheduled. The briefings will take place at 1.15 p.m. or upon completion of the Council's deliberations, in the Press Briefing Room (S-226).

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Wednesday, 10 December 1997

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-second session

3 p.m. 69th PLENARY MEETING General Assembly Hall

1. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples [18]:

   (a) Report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (A/52/23 (Parts I-VII), A/AC.109/2071-2072, 2074-2078, 2080-2082, 2084-2090);

   (b) Report of the Secretary-General (A/52/364 and Add. 1);

   (c) Draft resolutions (A/52/L.64, A/52/23 (Part II), Chapter III, para. 10).

2. Effects of atomic radiation: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/52/614) [84].

3. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/52/615) [85].

4. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/52/616) [86].

5. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/52/617) [87].

6. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/52/618) [88].

7. Questions relating to information: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/52/619) [89].

8. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/52/620) [90].

9. Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/52/621) [91 and 18].

10. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/52/622) [92 and 12].

11. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/52/623) [93].

12. The situation in the occupied territories of Croatia: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/52/624) [94].

13. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/52/613) [18].

14. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: draft resolutions (A/52/L.64, A/52/23, Part II, Chapter III, para. 10) [18].

Committees

FIFTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	39th meeting	Conference Room 3
3 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5
6.30 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5
9.30 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

10.30 a.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10
3 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Resumed substantive session of 1997

Consultations will take place under the Chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Gerhard Walter Henze (Germany) on Wednesday, 10 December 1997, at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. in Conference Room 6, on the selection of themes for the high-level and coordination segments of the substantive session of 1998, as well as a principal theme or themes for consideration at the high-level meeting of the operational activities segment of the substantive session of 1998 (E/ 1997/91, E/1997/92 and Add.1).

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The Technical Subgroup of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics will meet, under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Ahmad Kamal (Pakistan), on Tuesday, 16 December 1997, at 11 a.m. sharp in Conference Room A.

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Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund

The first regular session 1998 of the Executive Board of UNDP and of UNFPA will be held from 19 to 23 January 1998 in the Economic and Social Council Chamber. The provisional agenda, annotations, list of documents and work plan are contained in document DP/1998/L.1.

Delegations, as well as observers, are requested to fax their credentials to the secretariat of the Executive Board (906-5634) as soon as possible, but no later than 12 January 1998.

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United Nations Development Programme

The United Nations Development Programme will hold informal consultations on the *Human Development Report 1998* on Monday, 15 December 1997, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 6. All interested delegations are invited.

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

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There will be a closed meeting of the Arab Group on Wednesday, 10 December 1997 from 3.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. in Conference Room C.

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Informal meeting

The Department of Economic and Social Affairs will hold an ad hoc expert group meeting on "Groundwater Management Perspectives: the distribution of environmental and socio-economic factors and the search for sustainable groundwater management" on Thursday, 11 December 1997, at 9.30 a.m. in Conference Room B. All interested delegations are invited to attend.

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Briefing

A high-level briefing on the UNDP Trust Fund Project "Reintegration Support Scheme for Demobilized Soldiers in Mozambique" will take place on Thursday 11 December 1997, from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., in Conference Room 8. The briefing, to be chaired by the UNDP Administrator, will be on the conclusions, recommendations and "lessons learnt" from this project. It will be made to the Permanent Representatives of the donors and other Governments directly concerned. Other interested delegates, United Nations officials and non-governmental organizations may also attend.

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The Executive Director of the World Food Programme will give a briefing on "El Niño's potential impact on food security" and on "The World Food Programme Task Force set up to enable a rapid response to food emergency situations" on Monday, 15 December 1997, from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber.

SUMMARY OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Monday, 8 December 1997

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-second session

66th plenary meeting

Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994: note by the Secretary-General transmitting the second annual report of the International Criminal Tribunal (A/52/582) [50]

The General Assembly took note of the second annual report of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.

The President of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda made a statement.

Statements were made by the representatives of Luxembourg (on behalf of the European Union and of Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia), the Netherlands, Norway, Italy and Malaysia.

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of agenda item 50.

Elimination of coercive economic measures as a means of political and economic compulsion: report of the Secretary-General (A/52/343 and Add.1)[35]

The General Assembly decided to defer consideration of the item and to include it in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session.

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of agenda item 35.

The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development [45]:

(a) Reports of the Secretary-General (A/52/344, A/52/554)

(b) Note by the Secretary-General (A/52/330)

(c) Draft resolutions (A/52/L.19/Rev.1, A/52/L.31)

The representative of El Salvador made a statement in the course of which he introduced draft resolution A/52/L.31.

The representative of Mexico made a statement in the course of which he introduced draft resolution A/52/L.19/Rev.1.

Statements were made by the representatives of the Dominican Republic, Luxembourg (on behalf of the European Union and of Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia), Japan, Brazil, Spain and Norway.

Statements were made by the representatives of China and Mexico.

Members were informed that, in order to allow time for the review of the programme budget implication of draft resolutions A/52/L.19/Rev.1 and A/52/L.31, action on the draft resolutions was postponed to a later date to be announced.

Committees

FIFTH COMMITTEE 37th meeting

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 [116]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item and heard a statement by the Controller who introduced the report of the Secretary-General (A/52/303).

The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions introduced the related reports of that Committee (A/52/7/Add.1 and 2).

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee for Programme and Coordination introduced the report of that Committee on the work of its resumed thirty-seventh session (A/52/16/Add.1).

Statements were made by the representatives of Japan, Papua New Guinea (on behalf of the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples), Belgium (on behalf of the European Union), the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic, Mexico, Grenada, the United States, Iraq, Cuba and Bolivia.

The representative of Norway also made a statement.

Admission of the International Seabed Authority to membership in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund [160] *(A/52/233 and Add.1, A/C.5/52/1/Add.2 and A/C.5/52/26)*

The Committee began its consideration of this agenda item and heard a statement by the Secretary of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund.

The Chairman of the Committee proposed an oral decision.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the oral decision as proposed by the Chairman.

The representative of Jamaica made a statement.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this agenda item.

Organization of work

The Chairman drew the attention of the Committee to the programme of work for the week of 8-12 December.

SIGNATURES, RATIFICATIONS, ETC.

[MULTILATERAL TREATIES DEPOSITED WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL]

Amendment to article 20, paragraph 1 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, adopted by the States Parties at their eighth meeting on 22 May 1995

Acceptance: Switzerland (2 December 1997)*

Amendment to article 43 (2) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted by the Conference of the States Parties on 12 December 1995

Acceptance: Switzerland (2 December 1997)*

International Convention Against the Taking of Hostages, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 17 December 1979

Accession: Lebanon (4 December 1997)*

International Convention Against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 4 December 1989

Accession: Azerbaijan (4 December 1997)*

* The date of receipt of the relevant documents.

Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, concluded at Oslo on 18 September 1997

Signature: Kenya (5 December 1997)

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, opened for signature at Paris on 14 October 1994

Accession: Dominica (8 December 1997)*

* The date of receipt of the relevant documents.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Human Rights Day
(10 December)

Human Rights Day on 10 December will be observed with a special programme to launch the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948-1998). Opening remarks will be given by Mr. Hennadiy Udovenko, President of the General Assembly. The event will feature Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton, First Lady of the United States, as the first keynote speaker. Dr. Nafis Sadik, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund, will give the second keynote address. The message of the High Commissioner for Human Rights will be read by Dr. Purificación Quisumbing, Director, New York Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Other speakers will include Mr. Philip Alston, Chairman of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; Mr. Wole Soyinka, Nobel Prize Laureate for Literature; H.E. Mr. Karmalesh Sharma, Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations; and Mr. Olara Otunnu, Special Represent-ative of the Secretary-General on the Impact of Armed Conflict on Children. The programme, organized by the Department of Public Information, will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber. Members of delegations, Secretariat staff, representatives of non-governmental organizations and the press are invited to attend.

Roundtable

In conjunction with the observance of Human Rights Day and the launch of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Journalists Roundtable on Human Rights will continue *today*, 9 December 1997 in Conference Room 6. The third panel on the issue of "The Right to Development" will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The fourth panel on "Children's rights and Women's Rights" will be from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

For further information, please contact the Develop-ment and Human Rights Section, the Department of Public Information (tel.: 963-1786 or 963-3771).

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Award presentation

The Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Mr. Yasushi Akashi, will present the Tenth Annual Sasakawa/DHA Disaster Prevention Award, for outstanding contribution to disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness, on Thursday, 11 December 1997, at 6 p.m. in Conference Room 6. All interested delegations and Secretariat staff are invited to attend.

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International Day of Disabled Persons

Exhibition

The Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in cooperation with the Department for Public Information and the Very Special Arts organization, affiliated with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (Washington, D.C.), will present an exhibition entitled "A Very Special Arts Exhibit". The exhibition will continue until 5 January 1998 in the First Basement of the General Assembly Building (at the "Viennese Cafe").

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE EDITOR

Material for insertion in the *Journal* should be addressed to Room S-1138
(tel. 963-3888, 6771 and 6776) (fax: 963-4790) (e.mail address: JOURNAL@UN.ORG)

Office opens at 4.30 p.m.

97-34767